



We are now accepting applications for performance at the **2026 VMEA Professional Development Conference!** Applications will be accepted until **May 1st at 11:59PM**. The listening committee will convene during the month of May and directors should be notified by early June. *Note: When the listening committee is considering applications, they will be anonymous, so it is important that no identifying information appears on the recording (eg. having the group name announced at the beginning of an assessment performance or concert).* If you have questions, please email **Alan P. Johnson: VMEA Performance Coordinator at performances@vmea.com** Please read below for descriptions for applications.

Guidelines for Directors applying

- Must be an active member of NAFME
- Must currently be in at least your 3rd year at a school in order to apply
- Middle Schools must wait 2 full years in bw/ performances (groups applying for 2026 cannot have performed in 2025 or 2024)
- High Schools, Colleges, and Community (Adult) groups must wait 3 full years in between performances (groups applying for 2026 cannot have performed in 2025, 2024, 2023)

Choral Ensembles are broken up into the following categories:

- Elementary
- Middle School (Treble, Tenor/Bass, or Mixed)
- High School (Treble, Tenor/Bass, or Mixed)
- College (Treble, Tenor/Bass, or Mixed)
- Community (Adult)

Choral applications will consist of **FOUR** total selections with **TWO coming from the current school year**, and **TWO coming from the previous year**. Selections should show contrasting styles.

Guitar Ensembles are broken up into the following categories:

- Middle School
- High School
- College
- Community (Adult)

Guitar applications will consist of **TWO contrasting selections** from the current school year.



Orchestras are broken up into the following categories:

- Middle School (String or Full)
- High School (String or Full)
- College (String or Full)
- Community (Adult)

Orchestral applications will consist of **TWO contrasting selections** from the current school year.

Bands are broken up into the following categories:

- Middle School
- High School
- College
- Community
- Middle School Jazz
- High School Jazz
- College Jazz
- Community Jazz

Band applications will consist of **TWO contrasting selections** from the current school year.

Percussion Ensembles are broken up into the following categories:

- Middle School
- High School
- College

Percussion Ensemble applications will consist of **TWO contrasting selections** from the current school year.

Elementary Ensembles may also submit applications!!

They will need to submit **TWO contrasting selections** from the current school year.



Chamber Groups/Lobby Concert applications will come out **NEXT FALL**.

For your planning purposes, these will also require 2 Audio submissions.

- Instrumental Groups will consist of 10 people or fewer. VMEA will provide music stands only.
- Choral Groups will consist of 25 people or fewer. No risers are provided, and only minimal amplification will be allowed (and will not be provided by VMEA).

All applications should be submitted through Opus Events.

<https://audition.opusevent.com>

and search for "VMEA 2026 Conference Performing Groups"

Deadline is MAY 1, 2026